Huntington, L.W.
Mar. 17, 1901

Re bird seen
Goldfinches

[Goldfinches are permanent residents. You had a very good opportunity, they are fond of birds' seeds in winter. March 20 1901]

Amesbury March 17. 1901

Mr William Brewster

Do you think they are Goldfinches. There are two others besides myself that have seen this winter a bird which answers to the Hudsonian Chickadee. and last summer I saw what was plainly a Mottled Thrush. I enclose a stamped envellope

Yours Truly

L. W. Huntington

Dear Sir

I read in John Burroughs chapter on "The return of the Birds" the statement that the American Goldfinch returns with other birds about the last of May. Is this not incorrect, are these birds not with us all the time in fact what may be termed permanent residents. One day this winter I saw a large flock of birds which by the white appearance when flying I took to be Snow Buntings, ~~to~~ making a feast of the seeds on the gray birches

I was not able to make a close examination as I had no glass, they kept up a very lively chatter and were constantly on the move from tree to tree. I afterwards got a better view of a smaller flock of the same birds, and I was able to see that the upper parts were of an olive shade, the wings were black, conspicuously marked with white, though just how distributed I was unable to tell. As the Snow Bunting is said to be very plenty in this vicinity I thought some people might have gotten this bird confounded with that species, as this bird appears to be white when flying, they seem to be passionately fond of the seeds of the grey birches